



## Dogs Are Welcome in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Golden Gate National Recreation Area offers many scenic spots and open spaces for you and your dog to enjoy together. Whether you share a run along the beach or a quiet walk on a trail, always be aware of your surroundings and considerate of others and wildlife. It takes a cooperative effort to make the park safe and enjoyable for everyone.

## Why Your Dog Should Be on a Leash



*Great Meadow, Fort Mason*

**Mission of the National Park Service**  
Golden Gate is one of over 384 units of the National Park System. The National Park Service mission is to assure the protection of natural and cultural resources, and provide for the enjoyment of those resources in such a way that leaves them unimpaired for future generations. With 42 threatened or endangered species, and hundreds of historic resources, Golden Gate faces serious challenges. To meet these challenges, we ask all visitors to minimize their impacts on park resources and on other visitors. When dogwalkers cooperate with the rules, the impact of their dogs is greatly reduced.

## For the Protection of Park Wildlife and Plants

Many dogs chase and threaten wildlife. Your dog may scare birds or other wildlife away from nesting, feeding, and resting sites. The scent left behind by your dog can signal the presence of a predator to park wildlife, disrupting or altering their behavior. Digging may destroy an animal’s home. Uncontrolled dogs can damage important native plants.

## For the Safety of Other Visitors

Many people, especially children, are afraid of dogs, even friendly ones. Some fear being knocked over or bitten. Holes left behind by dogs can result in injury to park visitors.

## For the Safety of Your Dog

Unfamiliar sights, sounds, and smells can disturb even the calmest and friendliest dog. Your dog may be lost, injured, or suffer a painful or even fatal fall. Wildlife may bite or transmit disease to your dog. Your dog can be exposed to foxtails, poison oak, or other plants that have thorns or burrs. On a leash your dog will be less likely to encounter these dangers.

## It’s the Law

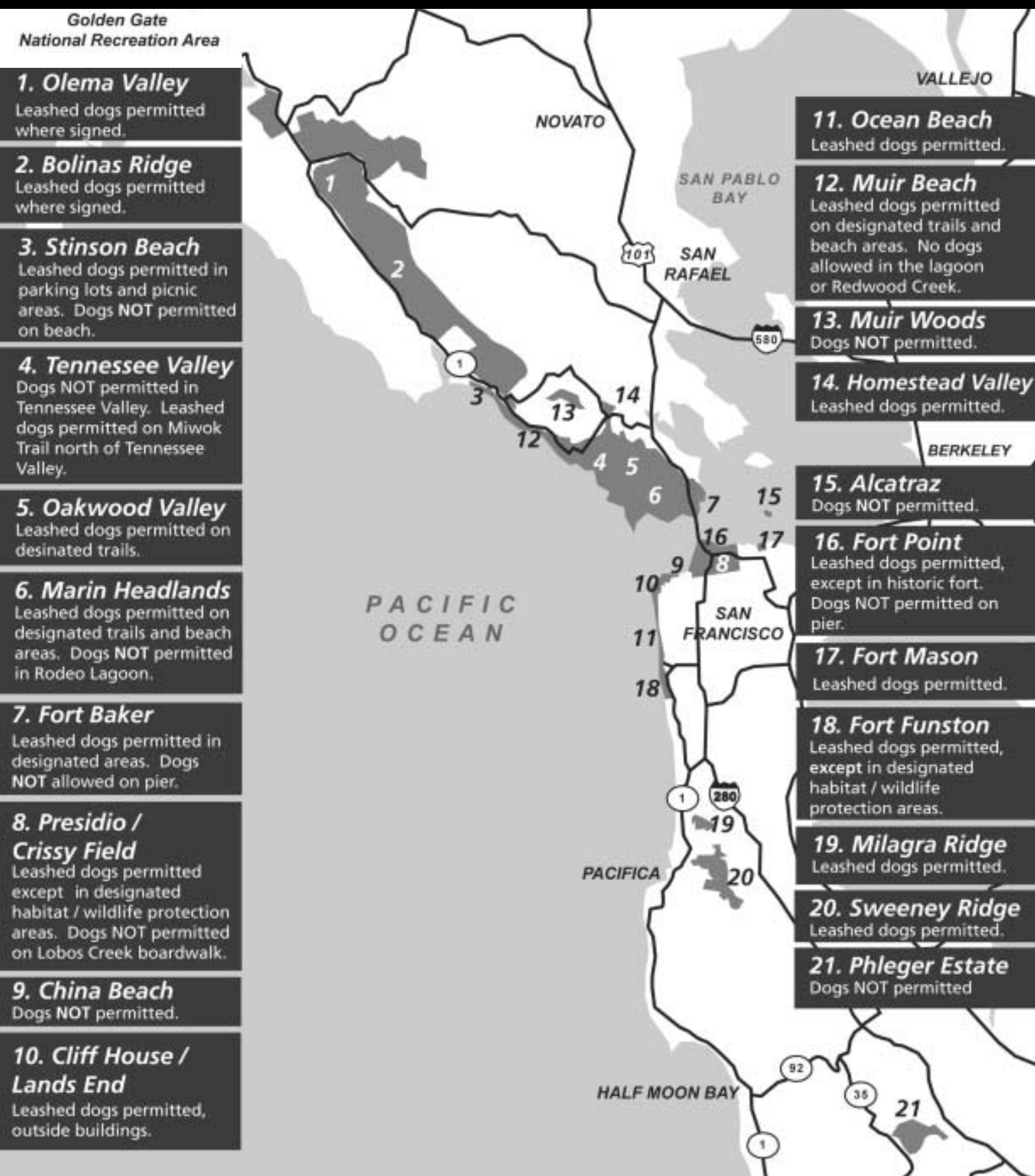
Where dogs are permitted, federal law requires dogs to be on a leash, not to exceed six feet in length, in all units of the National Park System. You may be cited and fined for violation of leash, wildlife and litter laws.  
[36 CFR Part 2]



*Dogwalkers enjoying Crissy Field*



*Snowy Plover, a threatened species.*



## Please Remember



On Milagra Ridge

When you bring your dog to the park, please remember to:

- Keep your dog on a leash and under control.
- Clean up after your dog.
- Bring plenty of water and food for you and for your dog.
- Ensure your dog never chases wildlife, or digs holes.
- Never leave your pet unattended, tied to an object, or in a vehicle without ventilation or water.

Service dogs are those that assist people who have special accessibility needs. They are welcome throughout the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.



For more information on dog use in the park, call:

- (415) 561-4732 / 4730
- TTY (415) 556-2766

[www.nps.gov/goga/pets](http://www.nps.gov/goga/pets)

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